Draft Academic Senate Summary

Meeting December 3, 2007
Education C117 Lecture Hall
3:15-5:00 p.m.


Substitutes: Ted Solis for Jeff Bush, Jose Mendez for Joe Comfort, Thomas Morton for Tom Witt,

If our attendance is not correct call 965-2222 or email Darby.Shaw@asu.edu and Judy.grace@asu.edu

1. Call to Order.
The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Bill Verdini, Senate President

2. Approval of Previous Minutes.
The minutes of the November 19 and December 3, 2007 Senate meetings will be posted in December. Both will be approved at the January 28, 2008 Senate meeting.

3. Announcements and Communications

A. University President’s Report (Michael Crow)

Tuition Proposal
This is a proposal from the administration that will work over multiple years but beginning--if it is passed this year--to depoliticize the tuition process as much as possible by guaranteeing a rate structure going forward and then a new tuition rate for incoming freshmen coming into the institution. That rate for incoming freshmen would be at what we call the top of the bottom third, which is a ranking of 50 states and their tuition levels at the senior public universities in those states. This is where we are headed; that is the basic framework of that proposal, and we will know by the end of this week where we are in terms of that proposal.
Budget
In terms of our financial request to the State of Arizona, we have been asked to resubmit our budget request that was submitted to and approved by ABOR to the Executive Branch’s Budget Office; we have complied with that request and have focused our request on those investments related to the institution that are associated with the growth of the institution: new students coming in and the financing of those students—new facilities to support those students as well as what we have called before the Student Success component of our budget request which is a faculty expansion fund, over time intended to make up for some of the growth issues of the past. Our budget request to the Governor is thereby limited to those three items with one small additional item which is a small investment to enhance our production of math and science teachers—to go into the public, private, and parochial school systems. Those are the areas where our resources are concentrated in terms of our budget request. The Governor has taken significant steps to protect the universities from possible funding reductions. We received a substantial increase last year from the legislature. She has asked for the state agencies to revise their budgets for possible reduction, but she has asked that the universities be kept off that list. Whether or not that will be able to maintained or not is yet to be seen, but it is something that we are very grateful to her for her support and very grateful to her team for working with us to move the university forward overall.

There is a budget website if you would like to follow the development of our budget (http://budget.asu.edu/).

Activity Tracking Indicators
On other indicators, we are doing well in terms of our research activity tracking. We should in all likelihood exceed $240 million in research expenditures, as well as our research grants being at record levels in the history of the institution. Submission rates are also at record levels in the history of the institution. We are happy about that progress. One of the indicators of undergraduate student quality was the selection of 16 ASU students as Fulbright awardees this year, ranking us among the leaders in the country, third among all public universities. We beat Princeton, we beat Columbia, we beat Washington, we beat UCLA, and more. From the cynics I often here this—on a somewhat constant basis—“you got so many awarded because you had so many applicants.” Or they say, “you got so many awarded because you have so many students.” If the world only worked that way—it turns out that we submitted fewer applications than Columbia, for instance, and a higher percentage--35 or 36%-- of our students applied. This is a function of the quality of the staff that helps our students to win these awards as well as the quality of the students themselves. We are very happy about this particular indicator. It was with some amount of humor in recent talks that I have given—I talked about the fact we able to beat UCLA in football this year, but we also beat them in Fulbrights. We beat them in Career Young Investigator Awards, National Hispanic Scholars, National Merit Scholars, and ten or twelve other things that people like to measure quality from. We are very happy with the fact that if you just take a window of the fall semester of 2007 and compare our two institutions, we did very well in the context between those two institutions. That should give you some comfort that this institution is doing well in those things that people are counting. We are doing well with endowments; we will in all likelihood break a threshold in the next few weeks of $500 million for our endowment. When I took office, our endowment was $202 million. Related to that we have also made substantial progress relative to the net assets—that is a dramatic increase in our net assets, approaching the non university-foundation side $700 million of net assets, which is a good financial indicator for us in terms of things we can fall back on.

Beyond that, I would be happy to take questions or comments if that is alright.

Senate President Verdini: Also, we will entertain questions from the other sites.

President Crow: Most of you probably know that we played the University of Arizona on Saturday and that had a successful outcome. In a few days we will be playing the University of Texas at the Holiday Bowl, and we hope for a successful outcome in that event.
Senate President Verdini: The president of UofA did not look like he came dressed for a football game.

President Crow: He was wearing a tie and a jacket—I was wearing a Sparky suit.

Senate President Verdini: Anything out West? Poly?

President Crow: If you have any other ideas or input, just send me an email message, and we will try to get on those in terms of other concerns. Let me say one other thing—this group had at one point asked that we be more transparent relative to the budget. We have built a budget web site (http://budget.asu.edu), and we also built a tuition web site (http://budget.asu.edu/tuition-and-fees) for people to interact with the general framework of the university’s budget and the university’s finances from a tuition perspective—the logic behind our tuition requests—tuition models and tuition assumptions, etc. Thank you.

Q- Bob McPhee said—just to follow up on your last comment, I saw that coach Erickson was pretty circumspect about the VCS neglect of ASU, and I wondered if you had any comment about whether ASU’s ability to get there—depending on how you see it.

President Crow: We have the same record as most all of the teams admitted into the VCS Bowl Series. It is a formulaic thing, and numerically we fall just slightly below where we might have. Missouri lost to Oklahoma—they must be crushed to have one loss and they are not going to the VCS Bowl-- and that must be tormenting to them. I think Coach Erickson has the right attitude which is that let’s just play the University of Texas and beat them like we beat UCLA—let’s just do that and have fun doing it. That’s it then, thank you.

Senate President Verdini: I would like to invite Liz Simonoff to address the group.

B. USG President’s Report (Liz Simonhoff)

Good afternoon everybody. It is so nice to see you all before a long break. We have been doing a lot over the last couple of weeks and we hope to wind down over the semester—it is finals right now. My staff is continually reminding me of that even though there is still another week to push through. Essentially we have been doing a lot of expansion with our safety escort service. We have been working with Residential Life and we are currently going to be initiating a new GIS campus system next semester that will enable us to tell where people are all around campus—it will be a lot more efficient in terms of providing safety for students, faculty and staff on campus.

In addition, over the past two week we have been talking to students and educating them about the environment and we had an Eco Holiday, an initial campaign to promote the environment and to tell students about sustainability and why they should care about this important issue. We will continue to do that next semester.

We are in the process of selecting our names for Student Regent to be submitted to the Governor. We are down to five candidates and we will be narrowing that down to three candidates and we should be submitting that to the governor by the end of this week. The Governor will make her selection next semester. As a reminder, both student representatives to the Board are from ASU this year. The Student Regent will take office for next academic year, 2008-2009.

For those that do not know about the process, basically students throughout the state of Arizona are involved—it is our year this year (ASU) to select the student regent so we have gotten together and initiated the application process; we have about 20 student applications—and that will happen on the second week of school next semester. We will be giving you more information as it happens.
We have been working with the Student Faculty Policy Committee and Dr. Jerry Kingston this semester and it has been a pleasure to work with this group. We are going to continue to work with them in spring semester.

C. Report of the GPSA (Bree McEwan)

The GPSA is working on the Centennial Professorship award. This is a university-wide recognition of junior faculty. Please nominate your colleagues.

We have been working on the tuition proposal and will hear later this week about the tuition situation when ABOR meets.

I am asking West and Poly if their student leadership (ASASUP and ASASUW) are invited to their Senate meetings.

Richard Gitelson responded that they were but he would encourage them to attend because of the high level of exchange.

3. Committee Reports

A. CAPC Report (Duane Roen)

**Action Items:** There were no consent items to adopt this time.

**CAPC Agenda (from November 29, 2007):**

**New Business:** There are three proposals from CAPC this time for first reading (only one Senate reading) that are information items to the Senate. I would also like to report that ASU 101 has been entered into the ACRES system. It will follow the normal course approval route.

**Information Items:**

**College of Design**
Department of Interior Design
Establishment of a graduate concentration
MSD Design
Design of Healthcare & Healing Environments

**Department of Visual Communication Design**
Name change of a graduate concentration
MSD Design
From Graphic Design to Visual Communication Design

**WP Carey School of Business**
Establishment of four undergraduate concentrations
BA Business(pending approval by ABOR 12/07)
Communication
Sustainability
Tourism
Urban Policy
B. Executive Committee (Bill Verdini) –
   No report

C. Committee on Committees (Tory Trotta)
   No report.

D. Personnel Committee (Bob McPhee).
   Report attached

E. Student-Faculty Policy Committee (Jerry Kingston).
   Report attached

F. University Affairs Committee (Rojann Alpers)
   No report

4. Open Forum

A. Governance Proposal

Additional time was yielded to Georg Watson to present the One University Senate models for discussion.

(Revised PowerPoint is posted on the Senate Web site at:
http://www.asu.edu/provost/asenate

Various comments were made about the proposed options. There seemed be strong opposition to Option 2. President Verdini asked the senators to take these proposed models back to their college meetings and solicit comments and additional models for review. There will be a series of open forums early next semester before the proposal is brought up for formal review by the senates. In the meantime, work on revising the by-laws will continue.

Notes from the Open Forum discussion of the University Senate proposal that took place at the last Tempe/Downtown Senate meeting:

- Meaning of shared governance - enhancing partnership between faculty and administration for the betterment of the University
- Still need senators-at-large
- Perhaps bicameral with College/School body and unit/department body
- Strong objections to Option #2 primarily because of discrepancy among sizes of schools/colleges
- Concern for the authority of "campus" faculty
- Tempe not represented well if power is delegated to UAC
- Neglects AP's in Library
- Should UAC act on behalf of Senate during summer and breaks? What is the rush?
- Strongly consider stipulating the functions that the UAC can perform before asking us to vote to set it up. Otherwise, the full Academic Senate may at times believe that there is what we in auditing call "opinion shopping." In the ASU context, it may be that the administration elects to put potentially controversial programs up for authorization in the summer rather than in the regular academic year. Also given the current membership of the UAC, the membership may be more attuned to administrative initiatives than typical members of the AC.
- Seriously consider the distribution of representatives on the UAC by various sites. As noted, population is c. 80% Tempe, best dept rep plan is c. 63% Tempe, and current UAC is 25%.
• Advocate option 1.c., at least of the options listed.
• Limit % of deviation from the population for any plan adopted. For example, if Poly has 10% of population it cannot have any plan that varies more than plus or minus 20% of the 10%, so 8% to 12%. This has two functions. First, it assures representation based on population at present and, if 1c, is adopted, then it guarantees that sites do not set up "departments" gratuitously in order to tilt their proportion of membership in the Senate.
• This range should be used for the UAC as well.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Grace
Secretary of the Senate

Bill Verdini
Senate President
Report for Academic Senate Personnel Committee, for Academic Senate Meeting of 12/3/07—
Robert McPhee, Chair

1. The next Personnel Committee meeting is Wednesday, December 5. Since the last Senate meeting, we have not met.

2. There is a Blackboard site we will be using to discuss important issues. However, we have created a special Discussion Board for online discussion of relatively narrow, committee-specific ACD manual section issues. Comments on each section will be overseen and summarized by one PC member, to speed discussion during the meetings.

3. We have begun our work on the ACD Manual by working on the 100 and 200 sections. One possible addition to the discussion on 12/5 is a draft section on ‘Procedures Implementing ACD Policies’. An initial guess of its content is that procedures must never violate the express intent of ACD Policies; notification of procedure changes must be made to the PC Chair for written report to the Senate, at least 2 weeks before the policy takes effect; actual implementation of the procedure change shall be delayed if a plurality of PC members take issue with it; Faculty with cases currently dealt with by changing procedures shall have a choice about whether old procedures will continue to apply to their cases; in the case of procedure change regarding T&P decisions, the grandfathering period shall be a minimum of perhaps 2 years.

4. George Watson and I met with Matthew McElrath to discuss retirement and health insurance issues. Matt indicated he thought the most likely plan to be accepted relatively quickly was a onetime change in retirement plan election, perhaps reserved for faculty 5 to 7 years into their ASU tenure. We have begun to gather information to support retirement/health proposal advocacy.
Student Faculty Policy Committee  
November 27, 2004  

Report to the December 3, 2007 Academic Senate Meeting  

1. The Student Faculty Policy Committee last met on Monday, November 26.

2. The Committee has taken the following actions and is currently considering the following issues:

A. A request has been sent to the ASU Bookstore for information related to the frequency with which required course-related materials (textbooks) are changed from one semester to the next.

B. A request has been sent to the Office of Institutional Analysis for information related to the impact on cumulative GPAs of alternative methods of calculating a student’s cumulative GPA when repeated courses are involved. Information also is being collected about how repeated courses are treated in the calculation of a student’s cumulative GPA at our peer institutions.

C. The Academic Senate approved in April of 2007 a resolution to extend the drop period by one week. This proposal was not adopted by the Provost’s office. An alternative proposal is being developed for consideration by the Senate.

D. A proposal to provide disability/sick leave for graduate TAs and RAs is being developed.

E. The proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct, as reported to the Academic Senate by Deborah Sullivan at the November Academic Senate meeting, are being reviewed.

F. A proposal to clarify permissible required class-related activities on Reading Day is being considered.

3. The committee adopted the following meeting schedule for the spring semester of 2008. Each meeting will begin at 3:00 PM and will adjourn at 5:00 PM (or earlier):
A. February 11
B. February 25
C. March 24
D. March 31
E. April 7
F. April 28

Unless otherwise announced, all meetings will be in the B wing of the Administration Building, Room 365.